

Diary 1853, 01

June 1853, 19

Seminar für
Englische Sprache und Kultur
Hamburg,
Edmund Siemers Allee

45
Hamburg, ~~den~~ June 10th 1914.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind recommendation of Mr. A. R. Lower. Please tell Mr. Lower to apply for the post at once in case he should care to come. I should like to know his age and have some information about the range of his studies in Toronto University and before he entered it. His probably not being able to be in Hamburg on October 1st would not matter very much.

Yours very truly

W. Siebelius

The President
University of Toronto
T o r o n t o .

- 12th August 1889 born -
* Lat Eng & Ger. An. Med. Mod. Nat.
math - Econ. Rel. know.

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June 23rd, 1914

W. Dibelius, Esq.,

Seminar für Englische Sprache und Kultur,

Hamburg, Germany.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of President Falconer in Europe I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 10th regarding Mr. Lower.

As the President told you in his previous letter Mr. Lower has gone on an expedition for the Dominion Government and we are now unable to get into communication with him. The letter sent by President Falconer was considered by him an application, for he knew the contents and consented to have his name considered and will go to Hamburg if he is appointed.

He was born 12th of August, 1889. While at the University of Toronto he took advanced work in Latin, English, French, German, Ancient, Mediaeval and Modern History, and also work in Mathematics, Economics and Religious Knowledge.

I shall be glad to give you further information, and am sending a calendar of the University on pages 157 and 158 of which you will find an outline of the course taken by Mr. Lower, - English and History with the Modern option.

Yours very truly,

President's Secretary.

SEMINAR FÜR
ENGLISCHE SPRACHE UND KULTUR
HAMBURG
Edmund Siemers Allee.

42
HAMBURG, ~~den~~ July 30th 1914.

Dear Sir,

I should be much obliged to you, if you would communicate to Mr. A.R. Lower that I have chosen him for the vacant post in our Seminar. I beg to enclose to you a detailed account of the duties of our assistants. Please ^{make Mr. Lower} write by return of Post that ~~he~~ ^{he} consents to them. I may mention in explanation that the rules are not to be considered as hard and fast, but that I have *always been on excellent terms with my assistants and that all little difficulties have* always been settled to general satisfaction. The number of lessons to be exacted from him would probably not be 10 hours a week, as with the arrival of a third assistant the work hitherto done by two, will be distributed among three and only very little extra work, specially referring to Canada will be done by the Canadian assistant alone.

Please make him reply at once whether he consents to our conditions. He need not be here on October 1st, as we would wait till he arrives; but we should expect him, of course, as early as he can possibly come.

I beg to send a syllabus of our place, and should be much obliged, if you would forward the same to Mr. Lower.

Yours very truly

W. Fickelius

Professor R.A. Falconer

T o r o n t o .

SEMINAR FÜR
ENGLISCHE SPRACHE UND KULTUR
HAMBURG
Edmund Siemers Allee.

HAMBURG, den 3. August 1914.

Sehr geehrter Herr,

Sie müssen entschuldigen, dass ich deutsch an Sie schreibe; nach Ausbruch des Krieges werden fremdsprachliche Briefe nach dem Auslande nicht mehr befördert. Sollte in Zukunft irgend eine Korrespondenz zwischen uns noch nötig sein, so bitte ich ^{da} drum, an mich möglichst deutsch zu schreiben, jedenfalls aber den Brief offen zu senden.

Ich muss Ihnen hierdurch mitteilen, dass wir die dritte Assistentenstelle vorläufig nicht besetzen können. Ich bitte Herrn Lower, wenn er von seiner Forschungsreise zurückkommt, mitteilen zu wollen, dass wir wegen des Kriegsausbruchs in keine Verhandlungen mit ihm eintreten können.

Ihr sehr ergebener

W. Sibelius

An den

Präsidenten der Universität Toronto

T o r o n t o .

Assistantship in the Colonial Institute, Hamburg.

To understand the nature of the appointment some knowledge of the nature of the Institute is necessary. The Hamburg Colonial Institute is an Academy for the special training of young lawyers, army officers, civil servants, and business men who intend going out to the German colonies. The number of students is about 100. Annexed to it is the Allgemeines Vorlesungswesen an institution on University Extension lines, which provides public and private lectures and courses on practically all University subjects and at the full University standard. Whereas everybody is admitted to the public lectures, the private lectures (called Praktika and Wissenschaftliche Übungen) are confined to students specially admitted by the Professor. The students in the Allgemeines Vorlesungswesen number from 2000 to 3000 in summer (when there are few public lectures) and about 16000 in winter. A Bill is before the Hamburg Bürgerschaft for the elevation of the present institution into a University by merging both sections into one.

There are eleven Seminare in the Colonial Institute, with special libraries open to all students of the particular subject. That of the Englisches Seminar numbers about 3000 volumes.

The duties of the Assistant are threefold. He has, first, a public lecture of one hour a week on a literary, historical, or some general subject like "Modern England", "The English Colonies" etc. The audience has hitherto been very large (about 300). Such a lecture will have to be given every second half-year only

Secondly, he has classes of about 20 students to conduct in translation and reading, study of English style, conversation, debating of political and social questions. The classes

ses are attended by students of the Colonial Institute and Allgemeines Vorlesungswesen. The students in the lower courses are mostly civil servants, young lawyers, clerks, etc., who know very little or no English at all and want only a practical knowledge of the language. In the upper courses the greater number are teachers, but there is also a considerable element of men and women from other professions. Only students with a very fair knowledge of English are admitted to these courses.

Each of the two assistants has three or four of these courses under his charge. All require very thorough preparation. In the lower the teacher must bear in mind that the students can devote comparatively little time to English and yet must have a fair reading and speaking knowledge of the language at the end of a year. It is only possible to obtain this result by the teacher methodizing and selecting his material and carefully preparing himself for each individual lesson. In the upper classes the fact that most of the students have themselves a keen insight into teaching method makes forethought and skill in the conduct of the courses a sine qua non to success. As the students are of different ages and professions, a certain amount of tact will be required, but it will not be difficult for anyone with some talent for teaching to win the confidence of his class.

The assistant has also, in turn with the other assistant, to conduct a course in advanced English one afternoon a week (~~possibly only a fortnight~~) at Cuxhaven (⁻³ 2 hours by rail from Hamburg). This is paid for extra at the rate of M 250 ~~to~~ ~~M 500,- a term, according to number of lessons~~ in addition to travelling expenses.

It lies with the professor to distribute the classes between the assistants.

The above lectures and practical courses take up all in

all

all eight or nine hours a week in fact (including Cuxhaven which does not occur every term); according to the official engagement ten hours of this work may be demanded.

Thirdly, the assistant is required to be present about four hours a day in the Seminar to help in its administration; employing the time however over his own work so long as there is no official duty to be done. Such official duty comprises aid in the management of the library, though most of this work is at present the duty of the other assistant; translations of articles, letter-writing, and similar light work which may be required from time to time, filing of newspaper-cuttings etc. But this side of the work is not onerous; the present assistant never had more than one hour a day of it and very often less.

The initial salary of the post is £ 2400,- a year for a beginner who has passed his academic degree with first class honours; a higher salary may be granted to an applicant who has already done teaching work in higher schools or other work of a scientific or academic character. The salary will rise by annual increments of £ 300,-. ~~From January 1st, 1915~~ The assistant will receive a fixed proportion of the fees; a successful lecturer might expect about £ 400,- a year in this way. Cuxhaven will be paid for extra as stated already. The income from salary and fees will on no account rise above £ 4800,-.

One of the assistants must always be on the spot in Hamburg. The holidays are six to seven weeks in summer, three weeks at Easter, and about a fortnight at Christmas. The professor reserves to himself the right of curtailing a holiday for very special causes, though no instance of this sort has ever yet occurred, on the contrary, the actual holidays have always been ^{MUCH} longer than those put down officially in this paper.

The assistant will have every facility for research work of his own compatible with his official duties. Besides the

Seminar

Seminar Bibliothek there are several large libraries in Hamburg, rich in English literature.

The contract is for a year but may be prolonged. The post must not however be considered a permanent one as there is no pension; an assistant will in his own interest probably not be encouraged to remain longer than two years.

Intending applicants should write for the Syllabus of Lectures (Verzeichnis der Vorlesungen) containing notices about the hours, text-books, etc. for the coming winter to: Vorlesungsbureau des Kolonialinstituts, Edmund Siemers-allee, Hamburg. Further information can be obtained from Professor Dr. Dibelius, Hamburg, Sierichstraße 18.

